

NOTES FROM CDBG ALLOCATIONS PROCESS, MARCH 11 & 13, 2008

1. Unfunded human services programs

HCD Committee was unable to fund any of the four new applications in this area, because the maximum allowed for human services was \$41,000 less than in 2007. All four focused on building skills and motivation for youth or adults to enter the workforce and/or tertiary education:

- City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA): summer job program for rising high school seniors with year-round follow-up targeting entry to university. Operated by City HR department.
- Mission Possible: summer program at Mission Hospitals providing experience in health care professions for rising 10th – 12th grade. Mission Health Care Foundation.
- Summer basketball camp with on-going mentoring and tutoring component for all ages up to 21. Each One Reach One Youth Coalition.
- Better Skills-Better Jobs: Employment and training program for Housing Authority tenants. HACA.

Committee recommended other ways to support these programs:

- a. Provide adequate general fund support for CAYLA (**action: Human Resources; City Council**)
- b. Build collaborative links between CAYLA and Mission Possible (**Human Resources; Mission Healthcare Foundation**)
- c. Support Hillcrest Enrichment summer program as a CAYLA job site (**Human Resources**)
- d. Maximize Parks & Recreation support for Each One Reach One (**Parks & Recreation**)
- e. Bring all four proposals to PED Committee on April 9 for potential Economic Development funding (**CD staff; ED Staff; PED**)
- f. Help applicants to improve proposals, esp. budgeting (**CD staff**).

2. Emma Sidewalks

\$100,000 allocated (\$242,500 requested). Ask County to contribute equal amount (action: City Traffic Engineering)

3. Town Branch Greenway and East Riverside Development

Committee supports MHO's proposal to:

- a. Reduce land cost by subdividing Ralph & Choctaw St. parcels so that MHO can purchase only the buildable sections, and in phases. Land cost to be further reduced to factor in affordable housing requirement (% to be determined) and cost of moving sewer lines (or City pays to move sewer lines – est. \$146K). (**ED staff to assess feasibility and order fresh appraisal; MHO to determine no. of affordable units**)

- b. City to retain the area needed for the Greenway, the steep slopes, and riparian buffer and assume responsibility for (eventual) Greenway construction.
- c. Proceeds of sale (CDBG funds) to be re-invested in Greenway construction/creek restoration; recommend high ranking of this project by Greenway Commission (**CD staff to research current ranking**).

4. Non-Discrimination for Section 8 voucher recipients

Developers seeking support for affordable housing development through Housing Trust Fund or Density Bonuses must agree not to discriminate against tenants with Housing Choice Vouchers (already a condition for CDBG or HOME support).